



Community Outreach Subcommittee Minutes

Wednesday, February 11, 2026
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Zoom

Subcommittee Members Present: Eyvonne Parker-Bair, Ana Mitchell, Piotr Milcek, Charles Green

Staff: Ken Barone, Erica Escobar

I. Welcome & Introductions

The meeting began at 10:06 a.m.

II. Approval of the January 14, 2026, minutes

The minutes from January 14, 2026, were not approved.

III. Old Business

a. 2026 Public Forums

i. Trumbull Follow-Up

The Trumbull Public Forum was well-received, with an engaged audience asking thoughtful questions. A forum is planned in Windsor, where strong attendance is expected due to ongoing community projects. Additional forums may be paused in the short term as overall attendance has declined compared to previous years. To maintain community engagement, alternative strategies such as smaller panel discussions in accessible locations are being considered.

ii. Windsor Next Steps

The group confirmed its commitment to hosting an event in Windsor, noting that the community is a strong and positive space for engagement. Members emphasized the importance of designing a public forum that goes beyond simply presenting statistics,

focusing instead on audience interaction and practical guidance. An update was provided on Windsor next steps, with continued confidence that the planned forum in Windsor will be successful given the existing commitment and strong community presence. The group agreed to move forward with planning the event this spring and to “check that off the list” as a priority.

The discussion then shifted to the broader community engagement approach, with acknowledgment that the current forum model may need to be revamped. There was consensus that traditional formats—particularly those focused heavily on statistics—are not as effective for community audiences. Instead, there is a need to move toward more educational and interactive programming that helps individuals understand what to do during encounters, what behaviors are expected from both community members and law enforcement, and how to navigate those situations in practice.

Several ideas were discussed, including creating more dialogue-based spaces, incorporating real-life examples or scenario-based exercises, and developing programming that encourages active participation rather than passive listening. There was also strong emphasis on ensuring the right messengers are involved, including individuals with lived experiences, members of the legal community (both defense and prosecution), and law enforcement, to provide a balanced and credible perspective.

The group also discussed accessibility challenges and noted that offering virtual or hybrid options may help increase participation, particularly for individuals who may face barriers such as weather, transportation, or comfort level with in-person attendance. However, it was agreed that the Windsor forum should remain in person given the expected turnout and value of direct engagement.

In addition, there was significant discussion around strengthening partnerships with community and professional organizations, including bar associations, the NAACP, CHRO, and law enforcement groups. As a next step, Erica will work toward reaching out to organizations that may be interested in partnering, with the goal of bringing key stakeholders together to explore collaborative approaches to community education and engagement.

Finally, the group discussed internal capacity limitations and the possibility of shifting toward a model where CTRP3 serves more as a convener and funder. This could include developing a proposal or grant process to support community groups in designing and implementing programs aligned with these goals, rather than

relying solely on staff-led forums. Erica and staff will begin outlining potential ideas and conducting outreach to support this direction.

Overall, the Windsor forum remains the immediate focus, while the broader strategy will continue to evolve toward more interactive, educational, and partnership-driven engagement.

b. Media Campaign Presentation Update

Ken Barone gave an update on the Media Campaign Presentation. The one-minute PSA video is nearly complete, and a preliminary cut has been reviewed and is progressing well.

IV. General Discussion

a. Website Language Translation

The CTRP3 team added a translator feature to the website, allowing users who need content in a different language to access it.

b. Qualitative Analysis Report Recommendations

The Qualitative Analysis Report recommendations are actively being implemented across several areas. In Community Engagement Strategy, work reflects a shift away from statistics-driven forums toward more educational, scenario-based, and interactive programming that incorporates lived-experienced perspectives, recognizing the need to move beyond traditional forum models.

In Outreach and Partnerships, efforts are underway to engage key stakeholders such as bar associations, NAACP, CHRO, NOBLE (CT chapter), Hispanic law enforcement associations, and other community groups, with an emphasis on convening partners to collaboratively design next steps.

To address capacity limitations, a grant-funding model is being explored where CTRP3 would issue a call for proposals and support community-led programming, serving as a convener, funder, and strategic partner to enable multiple concurrent initiatives.

Additionally, work is underway to develop a patrol officer feedback survey to address identified engagement gaps, and coordination is being established across subcommittees to ensure recommendations are appropriately assigned and advanced.

There was no further discussion, and the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.